

# Despair

Transcribed from *The Harmonic Minstrelsey*, 1807.

1. As on some lone - ly building's top The sparrow tells her moan, Far from the tents of joy and hope I  
2. My soul is like a wil - der - ness, Where beasts of midnight howl; There the sad raven finds her place, And  
3. Dark, dismal thoughts, and boding fears, Dwell in my troubled breast; While sharp reproaches wound my ears, Nor  
4. My cup is min - gled with my woes, And tears are my repast; My daily bread, like ashes, grows Un -  
5. Sense can af - ford me no real joy To souls that feel thy frown; Lord, 'twas thy hand advanced me high, Thy  
6. But thou for - ev - er art the same, O my e - ter - nal God; Ages to come shall know thy name, And  
7. Thou wilt a - rise and show thy face, Nor will my Lord de - lay Beyond th'appointed hour of grace, That  
8. He hears his saints, he knows their cry, And by mysterious ways Redeems the prisoners doomed to die, And

1. sit and grieve a - lone, I sit and grieve a - lone.  
2. there the screaming owl, And there the screaming owl.  
3. give my spi - rit rest, Nor give my spirit rest.  
4. -pleasant to my taste, Un - plea - sant to my taste.  
5. hand hath cast me down, Thy hand hath cast me down.  
6. spread thy works abroad, And spread thy works abroad.  
7. long-expected day, That long - expected day.  
8. fills their tongues with praise, And fills their tongues with praise,

Edited by B. C. Johnston, 2016

1. Measure 4, *Bass*: grace note following second E converted to eighth note.
2. Measure 11, *Treble*: grace notes leading and following F converted to triplet.